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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/714,683

11/15/2000

Steven Guttman

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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP

IP LAW

555 BAILEY AVENUE, J46/G4

SAN JOSE, CA 95141

EXAMINER

VAUGHN, GREGORY J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2178

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

12/27/2006

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/714,683	Applicant(s) GUTTMAN ET AL.	
	Examiner Gregory J. Vaughn	Art Unit 2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 25-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 and 25-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/16/06 (2 pages)</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Application History

1. This action is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination filed on 10/16/2006.
2. Applicant has canceled claims 31-33, amended claims 1, 4-7, 10, 12, 25, 26, 28 and 30, and added claims 34-40. Claims 21-24 were previously withdrawn.
3. Claims 1-20 and 25-40 are pending in the case, claims 1, 7, 10, 12, 25, 28, 34, 36 and 39 are independent claims.
4. Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 5, 6, 10-20 and 25-33 made under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Chester et al., *Mastering Excel 97* in view of Wei Us Patent 6,654,784 as recited in the previous office action (dated 7/17/2006) is withdrawn in view of the amended claims. However, upon further consideration, new grounds of rejection is made, as described below.
5. Examiner's rejection of claim 2 made under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Chester in view of Wei and in view of Courter et al. *Mastering Microsoft Office 2000 Professional Edition* as recited in the previous office action (dated 7/17/2006) is withdrawn in view of the amended

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claims. However, upon further consideration, new grounds of rejection is made, as described below.

6. Examiner's rejection of claims 3, 4 and 7-9, made under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Chester in view of Wei and in view of Courter, in further view of Pollack et al., US Patent 6,493,733 as recited in the previous office action (dated 7/17/2006) is withdrawn in view of the amended claims. However, upon further consideration, a new ground of rejection is made, as described below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

"The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention."

New Matter

8. Claims 1-20 and 25-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claims contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

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9. **Regarding claims 1-20 and 25-40**, the claims contain the following limitations: *"displaying the requested calculator in calculator mode ... allowing ... the user to edit the calculator web page ... code allows a user to change at least one of the non-editable cells to editable in response to clicking on said at least one of the editable cells without additional input, and to change at least one editable cell to non-editable in response to the user clicking on said at least one of the non-editable cells with out additional input"*. The examiner has reviewed the originally filed specification, and has failed to find support for the limitations. Applicant's invention is directed toward a calculator spreadsheet for use by a designer/creator and a user, where the designer creates the calculator web page for the user to use. The calculator web page has a spreadsheet mode, preview mode and a calculator mode. The ability to modify the editability of a cell is turned off in calculator mode (see page 6). Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in response to this office action.

Enablement

10. Claims 1-20 and 25-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claims contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.
11. **Regarding claims 1-20 and 25-40**, the claims contain the following limitations: *"displaying the requested calculator in calculator mode ... allows a*

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user to change at lease one non-editable cell to editable in response to clicking on said at least one of the editable cells with out additional input, and to change at lease one editable cell to non-editable in response to the user clicking on said at least one of the non-editable cells with out additional input"

The examiner has reviewed the originally filed specification, and has failed to find the limitation enabled by the specification. As described in the previous paragraph, applicant's originally filed specification is directed toward a spreadsheet mode, preview mode and a calculator mode. Applicant has claimed functionality for the calculator mode that is not enabled by the specification. Applicant is required to cancel the non-enabled matter in response to this office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

"(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made."

13. Claims 1, 5, 6, 10-20, 25-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chester et al., Mastering Excel 97, published in 1997 by SYBEX Inc. (hereinafter Chester) in view of Wei, US Patent 6,654,784, filed 1/14/2000, patented 11/25/2003, and in view of Bowman-Amuah, US

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publication 2003/0058277, filed 8/31/1999, published 3/27/2003 (hereinafter Bowman).

14. **Regarding independent claim 1**, Chester discloses a spreadsheet as a calculator. Chester recites: *"Excel calculates worksheet formulas when changes to the cell values so require"* (page 113, second paragraph). Chester discloses a spreadsheet as a web page. Chester recites: *"you can create an HTML web page from the data and objects on a worksheet, and ultimately publish the page at a web site"* (page 961, right hand column, paragraph 8). Inherently, the calculator web page would be served by the server and viewed by a client. Chester discloses requesting a spreadsheet web page by a user. Chester recites: *"To open a web document, choose FILE > OPEN and enter the HTTP address in the FILE NAME box"* (page 961, right hand column, last paragraph).

Chester discloses displaying a spreadsheet, wherein only certain cells in the spreadsheet are editable. Chester recites: *"Sometimes you may want to protect individual cells in a worksheet. Select FORMAT > CELLS, then select the Protection tab (Figure 11.3)"* (page 294, paragraph 1). Chester discloses a spreadsheet with both editable and non-editable cells. Chester recites; *"The following options are available from the Protection tab in the Formats cells dialog box. Locked: Cells can't be changed after the sheet is protected. Hidden: hides formulas after sheet is protected"* (page 294, second paragraph) and *"By default, each cell is individually set with Locked checked"*

– *you must individually unlock each cell that users will be allowed to change before you protect the worksheet*” (page 294, last paragraph).

Chester discloses spreadsheet cells with visually distinct indications, such as a border, in figure 23.4 on page 595, where the editable cells are shown with a border or as radio buttons.

Chester fails to disclose the ability to allow the user to change at least one of the editable cells to non-editable, and to change at least one of the non-editable cells to editable in the web browser. Chester's *publish to the web* feature, as described for the Excel 97 spreadsheet application, produces non-interactive web pages, which do not allow the user to modify the edit ability of a cell. Wei teaches the use of JavaScript dynamic HTML to enhance spreadsheets and other traditional software to be fully functional on the web. Wei recites: *“In one embodiment, the entire client program is based on standard HTML technology, mainly JavaScript Dynamic HTML and Cascading Style Sheet. This client program is extremely lightweight but is able to construct a rich full-featured graphical user interface with the same look and feel as traditional software running on Windows”* (column 6, lines 53-58).

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the calculator spreadsheet of Chester, with the web publishing capabilities as taught by Wei that “overcomes the bottleneck of current web-based computing not being able to

construct a rich full-featured Graphical User Interface with the same kind of look and feel as traditional software” (Wei, column 8, lines 31-35).

Wei and Chester fail to disclose changing the editability of a cell by clicking without additional input. Bowman discloses a “Direct Manipulation” capability for spreadsheets and other web objects. Bowman recites: *“Direct Manipulation Services can be further divided as follows: [0816] Display: These services enable applications to represent application objects as icons and control the display characteristics (color, location, etc.) of these icons. Input/Validation: These services enable applications to invoke validation or processing logic when an end user “acts on” an application object. “Acting on” an object may include single clicking, double clicking, dragging, or sizing”* (paragraphs 815-817).

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the calculator spreadsheet with web publishing capabilities of Wei and Chester with the direct manipulation of Bowman in order to provide direct manipulation of web objects with streamlined functionality.

15. **Regarding dependent claims 5 and 6**, the claims are substantially the same as claim 1 and are rejected using the same rationale.
16. **Regarding independent claim 10**, the claim contains substantially the same subject matter as claim 1, and is rejected using the same rationale.

17. **Regarding dependent claim 11**, Chester discloses previewing the calculator spreadsheet. Chester recites: *"Preview: Displays a preview of the selected file in the open dialog box"* (page 34, second paragraph).
18. **Regarding independent claim 12**, the claim contains substantially the same subject matter as claim 1, and is rejected using the same rationale. Claim 12 is further directed toward cells with values that depend on values in other cells. Typically spreadsheet programs refer to this type of functionality as functions or formulas. Chester discloses the use of formulas on page 86 in the figure in the middle of the page (the example is the *"AutoSum"* function). Chester discloses cells depending on the value in other cells default to being non-editable. Chester recites: *"The worksheet is intended to be used by many non-technical users, and needs to be reasonably bulletproof. When you are done, you protect the worksheet so that users will not be able to delete objects or edit certain locked cells"* (page 600, first paragraph).
19. **Regarding dependent claims 13-15**, Chester discloses spreadsheet cells that are non-editable, and editable and cells values that depend on other cell values as described above. Chester further discloses that cells may contain text. Chester recites: *"Text in a cell can include any combination of letters, numbers and keyboard symbols"* (page 58, third paragraph).
20. **Regarding dependent claim 16**, Wei discloses JavaScript Dynamic Hypertext Markup Language as described above.

21. **Regarding dependent claim 17**, Chester discloses spreadsheet cells with border, where the border can be blue in color. Chester recites: "*Border: provides a preview of cell borders and controls which borders are applied to selected cells*" (page 126, first paragraph) and "*Color controls the color of the selected borders*" (page 125, last paragraph).
22. **Regarding dependent claims 18-20**, Chester discloses the use of an edit ability flag (claim 18), where the flag can be set to false (claim 19) or true (claim 20). Chester discloses the use of an edit ability flag in Figure 11.3 on page 294. The figure further discloses the flag having a true value (shown as a check mark in the selector box) or set to false (the absence of a check mark in the selector box).
23. **Regarding independent claim 25**, the claim contains substantially the same subject matter as claim 1, and is rejected using the same rationale. Claim 25 is further directed toward building an input box for editable cells, where the input box visually distinguishes the editable cells from the non-editable cells. Chester discloses spreadsheet cells with visually distinct indications, such as a border, in figure 23.4 on page 595, where the editable cells are shown with a border or as radio buttons, and the un-editable cells are shown without borders.
24. **Regarding dependent claim 26**, Chester discloses editable and non-editable cells as described above.

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25. **Regarding dependent claim 27**, the claim is rejected for fully incorporating the deficiencies of the base claims.
26. **Regarding independent claims 28 and 31**, the claims are directed toward a computer-readable medium for the method of claim 1, and are rejected using the same rationale.
27. **Regarding dependent claims 29 and 32**, the claims are directed toward a computer-readable medium for the method of claim 1, and are rejected using the same rationale.
28. **Regarding dependent claims 30 and 33**, the claims are directed toward a computer-readable medium for the method of claim 5, and are rejected using the same rationale.
29. **Regarding claims 34-40**, the claims are substantially the same as claim 1, and are rejected using the same rationale.
30. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chester in view of Wei in view of Bowman and in further view of Courter et al. Mastering Microsoft Office 2000 Professional Edition, published in 1999 by SYBEX Inc. (hereinafter Courter).
31. **Regarding dependent claim 2**, Chester, Wei and Bowman disclose a spreadsheet as a calculator web page as described above. Chester, Wei and Bowman fail to disclose e-mailing the calculator to a recipient. Courter

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teaches the e-mailing of Microsoft documents. Courter recites: "*Choose FILE > SEND TO > ROUTING RECIPIENT to display the Routing slip dialog box shown in Figure 12.9*" (page 282, paragraph 7) and see Figure 12.9 on page 183, which shows a dialog box where a user would enter a recipient's address.

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the web calculator spreadsheet of Chester, Wei and Bowman with the e-mail capabilities as taught by Courter in order to "*make sharing and exchanging documents a snap*" (Courter, page 282, third paragraph).

32. Claims 3, 4, and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chester in view of Wei in view of Bowman, and in further view of Pollack et al. US Patent 6,493,733, filed 6/23/2000, patented 12/10/2002 (hereinafter Pollack).

33. **Regarding dependent claims 3 and 4**, Chester, Wei and Bowman disclose a spreadsheet as a calculator web page as described above. Chester, Wei and Bowman fail to disclose copying HTML code based upon an ID of requested information (claim 3) where the HTML includes Java Script tags (claim 4). Pollack teaches copying HTML code based upon requested information. Pollack recites: "*One method to help web site authors insert interactive HTML object into their web pages was to provide the HTML code for the interactive HTML object over the Internet*" (column 1, lines 56-58).

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Pollack further recites: *"manually cut and paste the HTML code into his web page"* (column 7, lines 59-60). Pollack teaches the use of Java Script tags.

Pollack recites: *"the web site providing the interactive content includes some client-side script (such as JavaScript or VBScript)"* (column 3, lines 22-24).

Therefore, it would have been obvious, to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the web calculator spreadsheet of Chester, Wei and Bowman, with the HTML inserting method of Pollack in order to *"reduce the complexity inserting interactive HTML objects into files"* (Pollack, column 3, lines 54-55).

34. **Regarding independent claim 7**, the claim contains substantially the same subject matter as claims 1 and 3, combined and is rejected using the same rationale.

35. **Regarding dependent claims 8 and 9**, the claim contains substantially the same subject matter as claim 4 and 3, respectively, and are rejected using the same rationale.

Response to Remarks/Arguments

36. Applicant should submit an argument under the heading "Remarks" pointing out disagreements with the examiner's contentions. Applicant must also discuss the references applied against the claims, explaining how the claims avoid the references or distinguish from them.

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Conclusion

37. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory J. Vaughn whose telephone number is (571) 272-4131. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen S. Hong can be reached at (571) 272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



STEPHEN HONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Gregory J. Vaughn
Patent Examiner
December 22, 2006